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ARMS LIMITATION TALKS PLENARY SESSION HELD

LD041152 Moscow TASS in English 1129 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Text] Geneva, 4 Dec, TASS -- A plenary meeting of the USSR and USA delegations took place here today at the Soviet-U.S. negotiations on limiting nuclear arms in Europe.

Doronin, Blinov Commentary

LD041136 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 4 Dec 81

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Anatoliy Doronin and Oleg Blinov]

[Text] The latest plenary session of the talks between the USSR and the United States on limiting nuclear arms in Europe is being held today in Geneva. Statesmen and the public of various countries welcome the Soviet-American dialogue and express hope that it will justify the aspirations of the peoples.

The Soviet Union came to the talks with the United States with serious intentions. This was said by FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, speaking in the Bundestag. He cited the readiness expressed by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, during his visit to FRG, of the Soviet Union to achieve a radical reduction in medium-range nuclear arms of each side in Europe, a reduction not of dozens, but of hundreds of units of arms in this category.

As for the United States, clearly its attitude does not show a desire to achieve a shift in solving the extremely important question for mankind of limiting the arms race. This is evident in the statement by U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger, that the United States intends to defend the decision to deploy new American missiles in Europe. Indications are that at the coming session of the NATO military planning committee in Brussels Weinberger will exert pressure on the representatives of other bloc member-countries to get them to support Washington's present attitude to problems of nuclear arms in Europe.

Meanwhile, Washington is continuing to wind up the arms race. A telegram from the AP news agency reports that the U.S. Senate confirmed the military budget for the year in the amount of $280.5 billion, which includes money for new strategic programs. These are the supersonic B-1 bomber and the MX intercontinental missiles. Both weapons systems, just like the nuclear submarines with Trident missiles already under construction, are designed for military superiority.

U.S. PURSUES ARMS RACE, SEEKS NATO ACCORD

U.S. Arms Status

LD032118 Moscow TASS in English 2100 GMT 3 Dec 81

["Arms race: Danger, Burden, Alternatives" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 3 Dec, TASS -- "The arms race is continuing. It is gaining in speed. The piles of armaments are growing as well as the possibility of their use," says a supplement of the political affairs weekly NEW TIMES [NOVOYE VREMYA].

"It is the United States which introduced most new systems of strategic weapons," admitted Charles Yost, Washington's former delegate to the United Nations. "The United States took the lead in the arms race since the emergence of nuclear weapons," declared Walter Mondale, the former U.S. vice president.

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USSR-U.S. 17 DEC ARMS TALKS SESSION REPORTED

LD171440 Moscow TASS in English 1212 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Geneva, 17 Dec, TASS -- A regular plenary meeting of the USSR and the United States delegations took place here today at the Soviet-U.S. negotiations on limiting nuclear armaments in Europe. Next meeting is to be held on January 12, 1982.

NOVOYE VREMYA DISCUSSES DISARMAMENT TALKS

PM171531 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 50, 11 Dec 81 pp 5-6

[Prof V. Yezhov article: "Europe Is Our Common Home"]

[Excerpt] The Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear arms reduction in Europe began in Geneva 30 November. Many Western observers point out that, in considerable measure, Washington has embarked on the talks under pressure from the world public and the antiwar movement.

We can scarcely count on the talks being quick and easy. The United States, like its main NATO allies, is so far failing to display a constructive approach. The speech delivered by President R. Reagan not long before the start of the talks contained the demand that the Soviet Union dismantle all its medium-range missiles as a condition for the renunciation of the deployment of the Pershing II and Tomahawk cruise missiles in West Europe by the United States and NATO. In attempting to justify this utterly unfounded demand, the U.S. President alleged that the Soviet Union has a sixfold superiority in terms of nuclear weapons in Europe.

Both Reagan's demand and his arguments were greeted with bewilderment and irony by serious Western commentators. After all, if the question is put that way we are in fact talking of unilateral disarmament by the Soviet Union. Soviet medium-range missiles emerged and exist as a counterweight to U.S. forward-based nuclear weapons targeted on the Soviet Union and its allies. But Reagan completely forgets that. He also forgets that as a whole, taking into account the U.S. forward-based weapons and British and French medium-range nuclear weapons, there exists approximate parity in Europe. Soviet leaders have frequently cited the relevant facts and figures.

The USSR approaches the Geneva talks most seriously and is seeking to find mutually acceptable solutions which would free Europe from the danger of nuclear war. Here our country believes that it is essential to use everything previously achieved in this field, with the principle of parity and equal security being strictly observed.

During his visit to Bonn L.I. Brezhnev advanced a series of new proposals designed to facilitate the attainment of an accord.

The suggestion for a moratorium -- that is, the freezing of the deployment of new medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe and of the modernization of existing ones for the duration of the talks -- was supplemented by an expression of the Soviet side's readiness unilaterally to reduce a certain proportion of its medium-range nuclear armaments on condition, of course, that the U.S. side agrees to the moratorium.

It was also stated that the Soviet Union advocates a substantial reduction by both sides in their medium-range nuclear armaments -- a reduction measured not in tens but in hundreds of units. Moreover, the Soviet Union is prepared to agree to the two sides' complete renunciation of all types of medium-range nuclear weapons trained on targets in Europe. L.I. Brezhnev particularly stressed that we are in favor of there ultimately being no weapons -- medium-range or tactical -- in Europe.

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BROAD SUPPORT SEEN FOR SOVIET DISARMAMENT EFFORTS

PM290803 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Dec 81 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Expressing the Aspirations of Millions"]

[Text] The peace-loving forces have won an important victory on the road to banishing the threat of war which hangs over the world. This is how progressive international opinion is viewing the timely documents on curbing the arms race, averting the nuclear threat and achieving disarmament endorsed by the United Nations Ceneral Assembly.

The centerpiece of these documents is the declaration on averting a nuclear catastrophe. The declaration, the draft of which was submitted by the Soviet Union and received the support of the majority of states belonging to the world community of nations, declares the first use of nuclear weapons to be a heinous crime against mankind. The General Assembly solemnly declares: "Those statesmen who make the decision to be the first to use nuclear weapons can never be justified or forgiven." "The laws of human ethics and the high UN ideals are incompatible with any doctrines permitting the first use of nuclear weapons and any actions pushing the world closer to catastrophe," the declaration runs.

This is an exceptionally important document. It creates favorable conditions for actions by states and peoples aimed at limiting the arms race. The declaration is, moreover, designed to be an instrument in the struggle to attain the UN organization's supreme goal -- to spare future generations the scourge of war. At the same time this document is a direct warning to the forces of imperialism and aggression which are stepping up the nuclear missile arms race.

It is the supreme duty and immediate responsibility of the leaders of states in possession of nuclear weapons to act to nullify the danger of a nuclear conflict arising. The Soviet Union has repeatedly called for a realization of this heavy responsibility. In company with the other socialist states our country puts forward a clear and specific action program for curbing and reversing the nuclear arms race and outlawing nuclear weapons and other means of mass annihilation.

The ideas put forward by the Soviet Union in the course of its arduous struggle to reliably halt the arms race form the basis of a series of other important documents which have now been endorsed by the 36th UN General Assembly session. The General Assembly has called for a treaty banning the deployment of weapons of any kind in space to be drafted. In another resolution the assembly urged that the talks on preparing a comprehensive treaty banning the development and production of new mass-destruction weapons and weapons systems be speeded up. The General Assembly has called for an immediate start to talks on halting the production of nuclear weapons and gradually reducing the stockpiles of such weapons to zero. The resolution calling for a ban on neutron weapons was an explicit denunciation of the dangerous aspirations of aggressive forces.

The UN endorsement of these documents is indicative of the fact that the voice of the land of the soviets, which persistently urges the pooling of efforts in the struggle for peace and to avert the threat of war, and the USSR's specific program showing the way to strengthen security are meeting with increasing support worldwide. These resolutions also show that the peoples and states flatly reject the path of confrontation and the arms race along which mankind is being pushed by cold war theoreticians and practitioners and by the imperialist powers' militarist circles.

Significantly these resolutions were opposed by the United States and its closest allies. Evidently they continue to believe that nuclear weapons can be regarded as a means of settling conflicts and just will not understand that trying to outdo one another in an arms race and banking on winning a nuclear war is a dangerous delusion.

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